Columbia Seminary Vantage

Enrollment Sharply Increased

CONVOCATION BEGINS FALL TERM

Students gather at a faculty home following convocation.

The Seminary Chapel was filled to overflowing when the new year began with the opening Convocation and 67 new students were inducted into the Seminary community.

J. Erskine Love, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Directors, led the new students in the pledge to the Seminary and President J. Davison Philips preached the evening sermon. Following the convocation faculty homes were open and students and faculty alike began the process of getting to know each other.

When it is noted that Columbia conferred 38 degrees last June to its graduates, the increase in the number of students is more clearly outlined. Thirteen states and Japan are represented, and 11 of the 67 are women. It is clear from all indications that a resurgence in interest in theological education is taking place across the nation, and since 1972 the PCUS has the second highest (15%) percentage increase in seminary enrollments.

Another change from the past is the age of the incoming students; they are considerably younger than in the years immediately past. The average age is 25, whereas just a year ago the majority of the students were in their 30's. More than 90% are Presbyterians, though as in the past, many different denominations are represented. The interest continues as there are more than 20 applications in process for admission a year from now.

RICHARD DODDS JOINS STAFF

Columbia Theological Seminary has added to its staff the Rev. Richard A. Dodds as Director of Seminary Relations.

In announcing this appointment, President J. Davison Philips stated: "Mr. Dodds brings to the work of Columbia Seminary an excellent background of experience as a preacher, pastor and administrator. He has served his churches and Presbyteries with distinction. Thus, we have high expectations for his leadership in our relationships with Church Courts, with our graduates, and with pastors and congregations of our supporting synods. In addition to teaching certain elective courses at the Seminary, he will be available to visit and preach in our churches."

Mr. Dodds comes to Columbia Seminary from serving as the Senior Minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Richard A. Dodds

His previous pastorates are the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church of

(See Dodds, page 6)

WITH OUR FACULTY

Prof. Ormond

Prof. Gonzalez

Prof. Bonkovsky

Dr. J. Will Ormond, J. McDowell Richards Professor of Biblical Exposition, has been awarded a grant from the Advanced Religious Studies Foundation of Houston, Texas, for research work during the academic year 1976-77. He is spending the year preparing the manuscript for a book on one of Paul's epistles. His specific concern is to deal with the scholarly questions in such a way as to highlight the theological concerns relevant to the parish minister in his regular duties of preaching and teaching. During this year he will be on other campuses in both the United States and England.

The General Assembly, at its June meeting, directed the Mission Board to name a special task force, "broadly representative of viewpoints and constituencies within the denomination, to design and lay plans for a major consultation on the overseas and domestic mission of the church."

Among the fifteen members appointed by the Mission Board at its September meeting is *Dr. Catherine Gonzalez*, Associate Professor of Church History at Columbia.

Dr. Frederick O. Bonkovsky, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics, is spending both the Summer and Fall Quarter in Germany studying "Urban Ethics" under a grant received from the Association of Theological Schools. He will return to Columbia in January.

FROM the PRESIDENT

As I have shared the life of the Seminary this Fall, and also the life of the Church in many congregations and Presbyteries, I am more convinced than ever that the Seminary is a *joint mission* with many Preshyterians. How grateful I am for the vision, generosity and prayers of many of you who join us in preparing men and women for ministry in Christ's name in the world of today!

Obviously, the students who are here on Campus are one of the major reasons for our existence. We are glad that they come to us with commitment and hope. They come in increasing numbers. They will go into "all the world." As they work and prepare and learn, you are a vital part of the Seminary's mission. More than sixty first year students will need to be placed in congregations next Summer in Supervised Ministry programs. Nine or 10 Doctor of Ministry students will need 15 month internships in churches or institutions under supervision. All our students would profit by preaching and teaching opportunities in local churches on weekends. These experiences are both "learning" and "serving" experiences and guarantee more efffective ministers for the Church.

More and more ordained ministers return to Campus for workshops, lectures, independent study and special consultations. This keeps the Seminary from being isolated, also, from the Church.

More and more people are giving to the Seminary program. Without that, we would soon be badly crippled. So, we go on together in this task. Every gift, each prayer, and all evidences of support are both essential and encouraging. As we go on together, I am grateful to you all.

Faithfully yours,

J. Davison Philips

FACULTY FEATURE: —Wade P. Huie, Jr.

October 3, 1976

Dear Atiemo,

Today I celebrated World Wide Communion Sunday by hearing a sermon from Dora Owusu, missionary from Ghana to Atlanta Presbytery, and by imagining you and other Ghanaian friends seated with us at the Table. The occasion deepened my appreciation of "the holy catholic church" and stirred my memories of many happenings during my sabbatical year in Ghana.

On our first day at Trinity College you as President of the Student Body welcomed us to our campus home. On our last day in June you presented a drum and a tray with six mahogany cups to the six Huies. We are all grateful for the warm hospitality expressed by you — and the other 90 students.

I am glad to have served in an institution belonging to the Episcopalians, Methodists and Presbyterians of Ghana and to have as colleagues teachers from Ghana, Scotland, England and Germany as well as the United States.

I came to teach homiletics but soon found myself also teaching church history. Another surprise came when the Board of Governors voted to change the Trinity program from four years to three years and I was asked to lead in planning a new curriculum. I am especially interested in hearing how the new approaches in Field Education and in Worship are being implemented.

Remember the fun we had in class when I had difficulty understanding Ghanaian English and you had difficulty with Georgia English? Remember the lively discussion on the ordination of women? With Presbyterian approval voted in August you will no doubt be having some women students, and maybe the Episcopalians and Methodists will soon vote their approval too. Remember the deep concern we all felt as we talked about the significance of life expectancy in Ghana at 44 years and in the USA 71 years, per capita gross national product in Ghana $300 and the USA $5600? Remember some of the other issues before us — preaching where a military dictatorship limits freedom, developing stewardship among the poor to serve even the poorer, witnessing in a nation with over 100 native languages but where many speak English as a second language, planning music, dress and a style of worship that reflects Ghana more than the West?

The deep Christian commitment of so many students impressed me. With no housing for wives and children, you have to leave family at home and usually see them only at Christmas and Easter. When you graduate, you cannot expect to make as much as $100 a month plus a house and in your lifetime not be able to double that—with cost of living 50% higher than in our country. Still for each opening at Trinity this fall more than six persons took the examination to

qualify.

I realize now how after graduation the minister faces difficulty in securing books for his library because of limited funds and restrictions on foreign exchange. I am glad that last year through Columbia Seminary we could ship about 300 books to the Trinity library. Perhaps other additions can be made there, and we can also discover ways of helping some of the graduates with their personal collections.

For the tie that binds Columbia to Trinity, the Presbyterian Church in the United States to the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, and me to you and your colleagues in ministry and mission there, I am most grateful. It is good that Harry Petersen (Columbia '57) will be returning in January to begin his sixth year there as part-time teacher, and MacLean Kumi (Columbia '74) will continue as occasional lecturer and as chairman of candidates for the Methodist Church. I will keep trying to make music with the drum you presented me which reminds me of the drums that called us all to worship every morning at 6:45 and every evening at 7:00.

Thanks for your contribution to my learning and teaching experience, for adding to the global dimension of my faith, for the fun and joy you shared with the Huies, and for the prayers you promised. We are indebted to you — and yours!

Medassi,

Wade Huie

Wade P. Huie, Jr.

COLUMBIA FELLOWSHIP AWARD WINNERS—1976

Each year Columbia awards up to five Fellowships to persons who have shown significant academic and leadership abilities during their undergraduate study. The fellowships are for one academic year only and cover full room, board, tuition and fees. Applications must be submitted by March 15 each year and are awarded on April 15.

Here are the 1976 winners:

Earl Van Buren Blankenship, II. Buren comes from Talladega, Alabama, a National Merit Scholar who received his B.A. from Presbyterian College. He is a Blue Key holder and also received the P.C. Founder's Scholarship, the Herk Wise Ministerial Student Scholarship and the Hay Scholarship. He is under care of the Presbytery of North Alabama.

William Edward Kelly, Jr. Bill is a Presbyterian from Winter Park, Florida, and received his B.A. from Duke University. He was Vice-President of his Senior Class and academically achieved Dean's List status.

Peter Rene Roest. Peter is a Presbyterian from Columbia, South Carolina, and received his B.A. from the University of South Carolina. While in school he served in the ROTC (Lt. Col.) and graduated Magna Cum Laude in Philosophy.

William Barnett Wade, Jr. Billy is a Decatur Presbyterian who also attended Presbyterian College, receiving his B.A. Cum Laude in 1975. His achievements include the Outstanding Senior Award, the Blue Key, Judicial Council, Student Council, Coordinator of Volunteer Services and the Hay Fellowship. Following graduation, he spent one year as admissions counselor at Presbyterian College.

James Arthur Wood. Arthur is from Bethesda, Maryland, and received his B.A. from Washington and Lee University. A Presbyterian, he served as Senior Class President, and achieved both the Honor Roll and Dean's List. He did research work in psychology while in school.

Front — Bill Kelly, Buren Blankenship; Standing — Billy Wade; Back — Peter Roest, Art Wood.

Save these dates

ALUMNI WEEK—January 26-28, 1977

CTS RECEIVES BEQUESTS

Bequests from the estates of Hoy Lovejoy Shannon and Miss Flora Estelle Gillis have added more than $25,000 to the Endowment Fund of Columbia Seminary. It is the Christian commitment of individuals such as these who have, throughout the years, aided Columbia so significantly. Just as public acknowledgement of these gifts is appropriate, so it is hoped these examples of Christian stewardship will encourage others to consider the needs of the Church when writing their wills. There is no better way to perpetuate commitment for all the days to come.

COLUMBIA BOARD MEMBER SERVES DENOMINATION

Members of the Board of Directors of Columbia continue in the tradition of serving the denomination as a whole. Last year the Rev. Paul Edris of Daytona was elected Moderator of the General Assembly. Now it is reported that Frank M. Mitchener, Jr., a layman from Sumner, Miss., is the chairman of the Permanent Nominating Committee of the Presbyterian Church U.S.

THE COLLEGE CONFERENCE

February 11-13, 1977

— For college students considering the ministry

THE CONFERENCE ON THE MINISTRY

April 15-17, 1977

— For post-college adults who may be considering a change in vocation

DR. KLINE CONTINUES RECOVERY

It is a pleasure to report that former President C. Benton Kline underwent successful by-pass surgery in Birmingham during the summer and is recovering normally.

He continues on sabbatic leave during the Fall Quarter and will return to full-time teaching at Columbia in January, 1977. During this quarter he has been named the first Wallace McPherson Alston Visiting Professor at Agnes Scott College. The Alston Chair is in the department of Bible and religion.

Upon announcing Dr. Kline's appointment, Agnes Scott President Marvin B. Perry, Jr., said, "It is particularly fitting that Professor Kline be the first incumbent of the Alston Chair. Dr. Kline joined the Agnes Scott faculty in 1951, the first year of President Alston's administration. By general agreement he was one of the most effective, popular and respected teachers in the faculty during the '50s and '60s."

COLUMBIA'S NEW STUDENTS

Edward Lane Alderman, Jr. — Nashville, TN
Ronald Joseph Allen — Clinton, SC
Carol Denton Ayres — Tucker, GA
Philip H. Baynes — Reidsville, NC
Earl Van Buren Blankenship, II — Talladega, AL
Richard Henry Brooks — Sheffield, AL
Royce Leonard Browder — Anniston, AL
Glen Albert Busby — Gainesville, FL
Jimmy M. Cantey — Decatur, GA
Clyde B. Carter — Conyers, GA
David E. Chadwick — Orlando, FL
Daniel R. Cline — Atlanta, GA
John Wiley Dennis — Conway, SC
Fred Craven Douglas, Jr. — Huntersville, NC
Scott Gregory Downing — Coral Gables, FL
Warner Robert Durnell — West Chester, PA
Charles Ligon Evans — Tampa, FL
Barry Dean Ferguson — Gainesville, FL
Sanford M. Fitzsimmons — Doraville, GA
Floren Francis Fisher — Keystone Heights, FL
Michael Clay Fleenor — Kingsport, TN
Truman Burgess Geeslin — York, AL
Donald Raymond Guterman — Donaldson, GA
John Coxwell Hall — Atlanta, GA
Dolores Morris Hayward — Tucker, GA
Sally Lodge Henderson — Charlotte, NC
Kenneth Monroe Hicks — Florence, SC
Brad Lawrence Huff — Marianna, FL
William Edward Kelly, Jr. — Winter Park, FL
John Edward Kelsay — Norfolk, VA
Crawford Abel King, III — St. Louis, MO
Arthur C. Knorr — Miami, FL
J. Bruce Lancaster — Monroe, LA
Charles Russell Lee, Jr. — Hamer, SC
Gregory Ennis Loskoski — Anderson, SC
Joan Fisher Mackey — Atlanta, GA
W. Tyler Martin — Atlanta, GA
Harry Hunter McCall — Salem, SC
George H. McDonald — Florence, AL
Edward Lewis McIlwain — Columbia, SC
Sandra Marilyn McQueen — Easley, SC
Judith W. Moore — Atlanta, GA
Casmero John Moriale — Tampa, FL
Richard Montgomery Nelson — Swainsboro, GA
Robin Shane Owens — Clinton, SC
John Nelson B. Pope — Bradenton, FL
Christopher Allen Price — Atlanta, GA
William Hunter Ralston — Atlanta, GA
Todd Jane Reagan — Tokyo, Japan
Gary Clemons Record — Chattanooga, TN
Richard Neil Robinson — Atlanta, GA
Peter R. Roest — Columbia, SC
Kathryn Hooks Sandifer — Tucker, GA
William Judson Shaw — Prospect, KY
Edward S. Slade — Quincy, FL
Harmon Andrew Smith — Conyers, GA
Gary Robert Soop — Winter Park, FL
John Hillman Stuhl — Orlando, FL
Elaine M. Trimm — Kansas City, MO
Daniel Myron Van Buren — Jackson, MI
William Barnett Wade, Jr. — Decatur, GA
George M. Walton — Washington, GA
Philip Albert Williams — Chipley, FL
J. Arthur Wood — Rockville, MD
Joseph Rennie Woody, Jr. — Bristol, TN
Bowling Cox Yates, III — Marietta, GA
Emmie Caldwell Young — Atlanta, GA

PLEASE—PLEASE—PLEASE

Following each mailing of *Vantage* up to 200 are returned because we have incorrect addresses. The cost to the Seminary for these returns has now risen to *25¢ each*. That is a $50 expenditure that can be saved if you will let us know when you move. Thank you.

FURTHER GRADUATE PLACEMENTS

ANDREA EDDINGS PFAFF AHLERS, Director of United Ministries Center, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Fla. (Joint call with her husband, Jack)

JAMES DAVID ANDERSON, Minister for Music, Clairmont Presbyterian Church, Decatur, Ga.

MADISON MAXWELL HIGHFILL, 3 Church field in Charleston, W. Va.: Putney Memorial, Hillsdale, and Belle Presbyterian Churches.

MILLIE B. MATTISON, Interim Pastor, Grace Presbyterian Church, Rt. 11, Box 972, Fort Myers, Fl. 33901

ALPHONSO NATHANIEL McLEAN, Pastor, Washington Shores Presbyterian Church, Orlando, Florida

BENNETT LANNEAU SCOTT, Director of Lay Ministries, St. Giles Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Va.

CARY GOUGH SPEAKER, Clinical Work at Baptist Memorial Hospital, Birmingham, Al.

BARRY EDWARD WILBORN, Chattooga County Presbyterian Ministries, Cherokee Presbytery, Ga.

DODDS (*continued*)

Tucker, Georgia; the Kirkwood Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, Georgia and the East Belmont Presbyterian Church in Belmont, North Carolina. While at the St. Andrews Church in Atlanta Presbytery, he was a visiting instructor in Bible and Evangelism at Columbia Seminary.

He is a graduate of Gettysburg College ('49). He earned his B.D. ('54) and Th.M. ('61) degrees at Columbia Theological Seminary. He is a candidate for the D.Min. degree at Austin Theological Seminary.

With twenty-two years in the parish ministry, Mr. Dodds brings to this new work a wealth of experience as a pastor and a churchman. He served as the Chairman of the following committees: Committee on Educational Institutions (Synod of Georgia), Commission on the Minister's Work (Atlanta Presbytery), Church Extension Committee (Atlanta Presbytery). He was the Moderator of the Preshytery of the Pines in 1975.

Prior to entering the ministry, he served in the U.S. Air Force during W.W. II as a radio operator on a B-17. Upon the completion of his college degree he taught school in Laurel, Maryland.

Dick and his wife, Betty, will be living at 736 Kirk Road on the Seminary Campus. The Dodds have a daughter, Roberta, who is attending the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, Virginia. Their son, John, is a Senior at St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, North Carolina.

As the Director of Seminary Relations he will have the responsibility of relating the Seminary to the Church Courts, the Columbia Friendship Circle, and the Alumni. He will also be involved in the placement of ministers, publicizing the work of the Seminary, and in helping to strengthen its financial resources.

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